

REMARKS

The Office action requires restriction of pending claims 1-20 to one of four allegedly patentably distinct inventions. Applicants elect the invention identified as "Group I" in the Office action, drawn to a method comprising comparing an expression profile of at least one gene in a peripheral blood sample of a patient after a drug therapy, in particular, CCI-779 therapy, to a reference expression profile of the at least one gene. Group I includes claims 1-12 and 14-17.

Applicants traverse the nonallowance of the linking claims of Groups I and II. Applicants submit that at least claim 1 links Groups I and II. Applicants understand that, upon the allowance of the linking claim, the USPTO will withdraw the restriction of the linked inventions and rejoin and examine any claims depending from or otherwise including all limitations of the allowable linking claim in accordance with MPEP §§ 818.03(d) and 821.04(a).

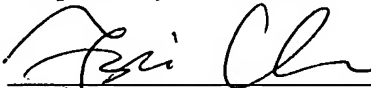
The Office action also requires election of one specific polynucleotide/polypeptide combination to which the claims will be restricted. Applicants elect profilin 1. Applicants further submit that claims 1-12 and 14-17 are readable on the elected gene.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any outstanding issues. Early favorable action is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,



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